

## FACT SHEET

### **Consumer and Commercial Products, Group II: Control Techniques Guidelines for Flexible Packaging Printing Materials, Lithographic Printing Materials, Letterpress Printing Materials, Industrial Cleaning Solvents, and Flat Wood Paneling Coatings**

#### **ACTION**

- On September 29, 2006, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final determination that control techniques guidelines (CTGs) would be substantially as effective as national regulations in reducing volatile organic compound emissions from five categories of consumer and commercial products.
- CTGs contain recommended emissions control strategies that could be used to control emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the use of these consumer and commercial products. VOCs contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone.
- EPA also is making available four final CTGs. These Guidelines will apply to the following five categories of consumer and commercial products:
  1. flexible packaging printing materials (ex: ink used to print on bread bags)
  2. lithographic printing materials **and** 3. letterpress printing materials (covered by one CTG) (ex: ink used to print newspapers, books, magazines )
  4. industrial cleaning solvents (ex: solvents used for cleaning parts, equipment)
  5. flat wood paneling coatings (ex: stains, varnishes and other coatings used on paneling, tileboard, and exterior siding)
- EPA estimates that the cost-effectiveness of VOC reductions through implementing these CTGs to control VOC emissions would range as follows:
  1. flexible packaging printing materials – \$1300/ton to \$2800/ton
  2. lithographic printing materials **and** letterpress printing materials – ranges from cost savings to cost/ton of \$2010/ton
  3. industrial cleaning solvents – cost savings; varies depending on cleaning operations involved at a particular facility
  4. flat wood paneling coatings -- \$1900/ton to \$2600/ton
- There is necessarily some uncertainty in EPA's prediction of costs and emission impacts associated with the recommendations contained in the CTGs. This is because EPA cannot predict the content of the regulations that state and local pollution control agencies may issue and incorporate into their state implementation plans concerning reasonably available control technology (RACT) for VOCs in areas that do not meet the national air quality standards for ozone (nonattainment areas). While the CTGs provide guidance to state and local pollution control agencies to consider in determining RACT, state and local pollution control agencies are free to implement other approaches for RACT and submit those approaches to EPA as part of the state implementation plan process.

- Applicability for the recommendations in these CTGs varies by category and by process. In general, the measures apply to facilities with VOC emissions from the given category of at least 15 lb/day (2.7 tons/yr). However, there are some exceptions (ex: control of emissions from inks, coatings, and adhesives for heatset lithography and flexible packaging printing has a 25 ton/yr threshold).

## **BACKGROUND**

- The Clean Air Act (section 183(e)) directs EPA to list for regulation categories of consumer and commercial products that account for at least 80 percent of the VOC emissions in areas that violate the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone. The Act further directs EPA to divide the list of categories to be regulated into four groups.
- EPA published the list in the Federal Register on March 23, 1995 (60 FR 15264). Since then, EPA has revised the list several times. Group II of the list now comprises the five product categories covered by the CTGs being published.
- EPA identified, or designated, areas that did not meet the national ambient air quality standards for 8-hour ground-level ozone in April 2004. State, tribal and local air agencies responsible for these “nonattainment” areas are in the process of developing implementation plans showing how the area will meet and maintain the standard.
- The Clean Air Act requires these state implementation plans known as SIP (tribes may choose to develop tribal implementation plans – TIP) to contain emission controls that are economically and technologically feasible. Emissions control technologies that meet these criteria are known as “RACT” – reasonably available control technology.
- Historically, EPA has provided state, tribal, and local air agencies with guidance for what types of controls could constitute RACT for a given type of facility or emissions source through a CTG. States may follow the CTG and adopt regulations to implement the recommendations, or they can adopt alternative approaches.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- To download the final determination and CTGs on EPA’s website, go to “Recent Actions” at the following address: <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/new.html>.
- Today's final action and other background information are also available either electronically in [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), EPA’s electronic public docket and comment system, or in hard copy at EPA’s Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center is (202) 566-1742.

- Docket ID Numbers

EPA-2006-0672 - Determination that CTGs will be substantially as effective as rules

EPA-2006-0537 – Flexible packaging printing materials

EPA-2006-0536 – Lithographic printing materials and letterpress printing materials

EPA-2006-0535 – Industrial cleaning solvents

EPA-2006-0538 – Flat wood paneling coatings

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